GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4135
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2001
SMUGGLING OF BROWN SUGAR AND MANDREX
PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the smuggling of brown sugar and mandrex is rising alarmingly in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details of seizures of brown sugar and mandrex made in various parts of Gujarat during the last three years alongwith their value in the international market; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to curb this smuggling?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) While seizures of Brown Sugar (Heroin), during the lastthree years, have shown some increase in the State of Gujarat, seizures of Mandrax have shown decline.

(b) Since all narcotic drugs confiscated are liable to be destroyed and no authentic market value exists, no precise valuation can be made. The details of seizures of BrownSugar and Mandrax in Gujarat, as reported by the various druglaw enforcement agencies, during the last three years are as under:

[in kgs.]

Name of the Drug	1999	2000	2001 (as on 30.11.2001)
Heroin (Brown Sugar)	12.34	40.91	48.59
Mandrax	103.51	0.00	0.00

(c) Government of India has already taken a number ofsignificant steps to prevent and put effective check on drug trafficking. These include instructions to all drug enforcement agencies to maintain utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts, training to officers, fencing of Indo-Pak border provided with flood lighting, vesting of powers in BSF and Coast Guards under theCustoms Act, notifying certain precursor chemicals viz. Acetic Anhydride, Ephedrine etc. as `ControlledSubstances` under the NDPS Act, quarterly coordination meetings by NCB, signing of a bilateral agreementwith Pakistan to hold periodic meetings at Secretarylevel and Director General level and holding of quarterly cross-border meetings of Indian and Pakistani anti-narcotics agencies as a partof the border meetings of BSF and Pak Rangers.